

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA  
Case No. DA 09-0578

HERMAN GONZALES; FAWN LYONS; KEN LAUDATO; LAWRENCE  
WALKER; GARY MANSIKKA; GARY GALETTI; GREG WHITING;  
MARVIN KRONE; RICHARD BLACK; JIM KELLY; CHRIS SOUSLEY,  
and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs and Appellees,

FILED

MAY 11 2010

-VS-

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

MONTANA POWER COMPANY; NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION, a  
Delaware corporation; NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION, a Delaware  
corporation, as a reorganized debtor, subsequent to its plan confirmation,  
hereinafter referred to as NOR; NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION d/b/a  
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY; PUTMAN AND ASSOCIATES, INC., a  
Montana corporation; and JOHN DOES II and III and JOHN DOES IV thru  
XX,

Defendants and Appellants.

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STIPULATION FOR REINVESTMENT OF JURISDICTION

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COMES NOW the attorneys for the Appellees, and the attorneys for  
the Appellants Northwestern Corporation, as a reorganized debtor,  
hereinafter Northwestern, and Putman and Associates, Inc., hereinafter  
Putman, and stipulate as follows:

1. As a result of the appellate mediation procedures, Appellees and Appellants Northwestern and Putman have reached a conditional settlement.

2. The proposed settlement is conditional on the District Court and the Workers' Compensation Court approving the settlement terms.

3. The parties hereby stipulate that an appropriate order should be entered by this Court to reinvest the District Court with jurisdiction for the limited purpose of supervising the various conditions necessary to finalize the settlement.

4. The parties agree that in the event that the settlement is not approved by the District Court and the various conditions satisfied, Northwestern and Putman reserve the right to advise this Court and proceed with the previously filed appeals.

5. The parties anticipate having a hearing scheduled with the District Court as soon as possible after reinvestment of jurisdiction and further anticipate that the various conditions involved in the settlement ought to be able to be satisfied and compliance concluded within 90 days of the District Court's preliminary review of the settlement procedure.

6. The parties further stipulate that upon the approval of the settlement and the satisfaction of the conditions that this Court will be immediately advised that a full and final settlement has been achieved and

dismissal of the appeals of record for the settling parties will be filed with this Court.

7. This stipulation does not involve Montana Power Company and the current appeal process as to Montana Power Company will continue under the procedures of this Court to final adjudication.

Based upon the foregoing stipulation, the parties request that the Court enter an appropriate order allowing the reinvestment of jurisdiction in the District Court subject to the terms of the stipulation. A proposed Order is submitted herewith.

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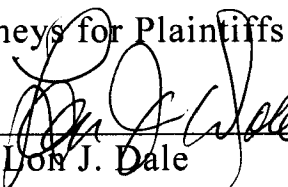
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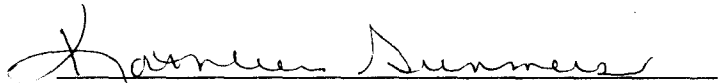
By:  5/4/10  
Jason S. Ritchie Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing document was served upon the following individuals by the means designated below this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010:

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